

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

July 24, 1997

**MINUTES**

The Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education met for the regular business meeting in Senate Room A of the General Assembly Building, Richmond, Virginia on Thursday, July 24, 1997, with the following members present:

Ms. Michelle Easton

Mrs. Lil Tuttle

Senator J. Brandon Bell

Mr. Rayford Harris, Sr.

Mr. Robert H. Patterson, Jr.

Senator John W. Russell

Mr. Lee Ware

Mrs. Cheri P. Yecke

Dr. Richard T. La Pointe

Secretary and Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

Ms. Easton, president, presided and called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

***INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

Mr. Harris gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

Mr. Ware made a motion for approval of the minutes of the June 26 meeting. Copies of the minutes had been distributed previously to all members of the Board for review. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Yecke and carried unanimously.

***HIGHLIGHT ON STUDENTS***

The Governor's School for the Visual and Performing Arts brass and choral groups performed for the public and members of the Board of Education. The brass group was conducted by Allen Patterson and choral groups were conducted by Lee Hanchey and Marvin Curtis.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Senator Russell made a motion to adopt the following items on the consent agenda.

Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund  
Final Review of Recommendation Concerning Applications for  
Literary Fund Loans  
Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of  
Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List

The motion was seconded by Senator Bell and carried unanimously.

### **Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund**

The Superintendent's recommendation for approval of the financial report on the status of the Literary Fund as of May 31, 1997, was accepted by the Board of Education's vote on the consent agenda.

### **Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Applications for Literary Fund Loans**

The Superintendent's recommendation for approval of fourteen new applications in the amount of \$26,015,930 subject to final approval by the Office of the Attorney General was accepted by the Board of Education's vote on the consent agenda.

COUNTY, CITY, TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Accomack County	Tangier Combined	\$1,757,324.00
Essex County	Essex Intermediate School	1,800,000.00
Hanover County	Henry Clay Elementary	2,065,000.00
Hanover County	Chickahominy Middle School	1,850,000.00
Hanover County	South Anna Elementary	2,080,000.00
Hanover County	Battlefield Park Elementary	1,875,000.00
Hanover County	John M. Gandy Elementary	2,955,000.00
Hanover County	Atlee High School	1,420,000.00
Hanover County	Patrick Henry High	2,065,000.00

Orange County	New Middle School	5,000,000.00
COUNTY, CITY TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Russell County	Castlewood Elementary	810,094.00
Russell County	Swords Creek Elementary	350,000.00
Russell County	Lebanon Elementary	1,028,412.00
Washington County	Watauga Elementary	960,100.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,015,930.00</b>

**Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List**

The Superintendent's recommendation that funds be released for two projects in the amount of \$10,000,000 was approved by the Board of Education's vote on the consent agenda.

COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Gloucester County	New Bethel Elementary	\$5,000,000.00
Stafford County	Winding Creek Elementary	5,000,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,000,000.00</b>

**Waiting List**

The Superintendent's recommendation that funding for five projects in the amount of \$12,094,805 be deferred and the projects be placed on the First Priority Waiting List was approved by the Board of Education vote on the consent agenda.

**First Priority Waiting List**

COUNTY, CITY OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Essex County	Essex Intermediate	\$1,800,000.00
Hanover County	Chickahominy Middle	1,850,000.00
Hanover County	Battlefield Park Elementary	1,875,000.00

Accomack County	South Accomack	3,284,902.00
Accomack County	North Accomack	3,284,903.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,094,805.00</b>

### ***DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES***

Mrs. Yecke attended the Governors Conference in Education and informed Board members of the following: (1) Orange County has an incentive program for students to earn scholarship money through attendance, grades, and good discipline that can be cashed in to pay tuition for dual enrollment courses or for a vocational education or technical training courses offered in other localities, (2) Hanover County will pay for college remediation courses for graduates who needs remediation upon entering college, (3) an article that appeared in The Chronicle of Higher Education, written by Roger Shattuck of Boston University. Mrs. Yecke suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Shattuck informing him that Virginia has already implemented his recommendations of adopting a core curriculum for kindergarten through 12th grade and standardized tests in high schools in Virginia.

Mr. Ware informed Board members that a magazine article from the July issue of the Atlantic Monthly will be sent to all members with a cover letter from him.

### ***ACTION ITEMS***

#### ***Final Review of Revised Regulations Governing Literary Fund Applications in Virginia***

Senator Bell made a motion to authorize the Department of Education staff to file the required Pre-NOIRA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harris and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Yecke made a motion to authorize the Department of Education staff to file the NOIRA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harris and carried unanimously.

#### ***Final Review of 1998-2000 Base Budget for the Standards of Quality***

Mr. Ware made a motion to adopt the proposed base budget directing the Department of Education staff to make the appropriate technical adjustments as the data become available. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Yecke and carried unanimously.

**Final Review of the ABTEL Recommendation on the Continued Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs at Norfolk State University and Virginia Commonwealth University**

Mrs. Yecke made a motion for the Board of Education to support the recommendations of the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board and grant continuing accreditation to the teachers=preparation programs at Norfolk State University and Virginia Commonwealth University from the spring semester 1996 through the spring semester 2001. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Tuttle made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to *Virginia Code* ' 2.1-344.A to discuss prospective candidates for appointment and other personnel matters; for discussion of personal matters not related to public business; for discussion of matters related to the investing of public funds affecting where competition and bargaining are involved; for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members involving the IDEA Reauthorization Act assurances; for discussion and consideration of special awards or for discussion of tests and examinations excluded under ' 2.1-342.B.9. The Board adjourned for Executive Session at 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. Tuttle made a motion that the Board reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Yecke and carried unanimously. The Board reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

Mrs. Tuttle made a motion that the Board certify by roll call vote that to the best of each member=s knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive session to which this certification motion applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive session were heard, discussed or considered by the Board. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Yecke and carried unanimously.

**Board Roll Call:**

Ms. Easton - Aye	Mr. Patterson - Aye
Mrs. Tuttle - Aye	Senator Bell - Aye
Mr. Harris - Aye	Senator Russell - Aye
Mrs. Yecke - Aye	

Mr. Ware abstained from the motion but noted his concurrence with its substance.

**Final Review of Nominations to the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL)**

Mr. Ware made a motion for the following to be accepted to the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) for a full three-year term, effective July 1, 1997, to July 1, 2000:

Secondary School Representative:	Mark L. Glaser, Teacher Fairfax County Public Schools
Middle School Representative:	Susan Walton, Teacher Gloucester County Public Schools
Higher Education Independent College Representative:	Lanny W. Holsinger, Chair Education Department Bridgewater College
Higher Education Public College Representative:	Mary V. Biscouvaris Associate Professor of Education Christopher Newport University
Business Community Representative:	John Shifflett, Manager of Training Newport News Shipbuilding
Division Superintendent	Dr. Jane Massie Wilson, Superintendent West Point Public Schools (Effective July 1, 1997 to July 1, 1999)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Harris and carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Standards of Accreditation Update**

Charles Finley, Principal Policy Specialist, Division of Policy and Public Affairs, Department of Education, informed the Board members that 336 persons spoke at the public hearings held on July 14, 1997 at four locations around the state. Mr. Finley stated that 228 registered as parents, forty-one registered as business people, 149 registered as educators, 161 registered as citizens and twenty registered as students. Half the people spoke in

support of maintaining the current requirements for elementary counselors and family life programs. Several speakers also spoke in support of the Board of Education's proposal for the Standards of Accreditation.

Ms. Easton stated that she will appoint a subcommittee of board members to work on the report card with the Department of Education staff.

Mr. Patterson requested that the Board members receive the report with recommendations for the Standards of Accreditation from the Department of Education staff in two weeks. This will give the Board members approximately one month to review the Standards of Accreditation before the next board meeting.

#### **Update on the SOL Assessment Development Process**

Cam Harris, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Education, gave an update on the status of the development of the SOL testing program. April 28-May 2, 1997, the Department of Education field-tested potential items for use in the SOL tests at grades 3, 5, 8, and 11. This was a test of the test not a test of the students.

#### **Responsibilities of the Board of Education Resulting from the 1997 Legislative Session**

Diane Atkinson, Specialist, Policy and Public Affairs, Department of Education reviewed a list of responsibilities that were specifically charged to the Board, and those responsibilities that will impact K-12 statewide educational policy.

#### **Report of the Results of the Virginia State Assessment Program, Spring 1997**

The Spring 1997 scores reported from the Virginia State Assessment Program (VSAP) are that of the *Stanford Achievement Series, Ninth Edition* (Stanford 9) administered at grades 3, 5, 8, and 11. The Stanford 9 was administered for the first time in Virginia as part of VSAP in the Spring 1997 administration. The Stanford 9 is a nationally norm-referenced test, providing information about how Virginia's students compare to a national sample of students taking the same test.

#### **Report of the Results from the Literacy Passport Testing Program, Spring 1997 Administration**

Dr. La Point reported that mathematic scores are the highest in the history of the LPT test and reading is the second highest. Forty-seven percent of school divisions reported an

improvement in writing scores.

Cam Harris gave the following statistics of the Literary Passport Test:

- P 80,883 sixth-grade students were tested.
- P 68.3% sixth-grade students passed all three tests.
- P 83.2% passed the reading test.
- P 76.5% passed the writing test.
- P 87.0% passed the mathematics test.

#### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **Assurance Statement for Federal Fiscal Year 1997 Regarding Part B of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act as Amended by P.L. 105-17 (June 4, 1997)**

Mr. Ware made a motion for the Board of Education to authorize Dr. La Pointe to develop and execute appropriate assurances to the U. S. Department of Education for Virginia to receive funds under the Reauthorized IDEA, subject to review by the Attorney General and direction from the Governor.

The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and carried unanimously.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Easton adjourned the meeting of the Virginia Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education at 1:20 p.m.

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President